

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. This application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of claims 1-3 and 6 directed to an invention non-elected without traverse.

Accordingly, claims 1-3 and 6 have been cancelled.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 7 is allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With respect to claim 7, the prior art of record neither anticipates nor renders obvious all the limitations of the claim, including: a method of manufacturing an image pickup device having at least one insulated gate field effect transistor, said method comprising the steps of forming a first diffusion layer at a position deeper than a source and a drain region of the transistor and entirely separated from said source and drain regions; and forming, prior to forming said insulated gate field effect transistor and after forming the first diffusion layer, a second diffusion layer of the first conduction type having a higher concentration than said first diffusion layer in said substrate at a position deeper than said first diffusion layer, the second diffusion layer being entirely separated from said first diffusion layer by an intervening layer having a conduction type that is different than the first conduction type.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Abul Kalam whose telephone number is 571-272-8346. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 9 AM - 5 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wael M. Fahmy can be reached on 571-272-1705. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/A. K./
Examiner, Art Unit 2814

/Phat X Cao/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2814